



## Borough of Aylesbury

---

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

---

# ANNUAL REPORT

on the Health of the Borough  
for the year 1943

---

J. T. C. SIMS-ROBERTS,  
M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,  
Barrister at Law,  
Medical Officer of Health.

ALFRED LEE, A.R.San.I., F.S.I.A.  
Borough Sanitary Inspector.  
(Retired 31st May, 1943).

W. EWART RUSE, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.  
Borough Sanitary Inspector.  
(Appointed 1st July, 1943).

## HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillor E. S. Mackrill (Chairman).  
 Councillor Mrs. Paterson (The Mayor).  
 Alderman J. J. Evett (Deputy Mayor).

„ P. R. Eaton.

Councillor Mrs. Coventon, M.B.E.

„ J. Fryer.  
 „ T. Goodchild.  
 „ F. B. Howard.  
 „ W. Johnson.  
 „ A. West.

---

## STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

## Medical Officer of Health.

John T. C. Sims-Roberts,  
 M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., F.R.C.P., D.P.H.  
 Barrister at Law.

## Sanitary Inspectors.

Alfred Lee, A.R.San.I., F.S.I.A.,  
 Borough Sanitary Inspector (till 31st May, 1943).

W. Ewart Ruse, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,  
 Additional Sanitary Inspector (till 30th June, 1943).  
 Borough Sanitary Inspector (from 1st July, 1943).

A. T. Braley, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,  
 Additional Sanitary Inspector  
 (From 8th March, 1943, till 20th October, 1943).

## Clerical Staff.

\*Dennis W. Rixon.

\*Douglas A. Keen.

Mrs. C. Burge (till 6th July, 1943).

Miss P. Turing (from 24th August, 1943).

Miss B. Janes.

\*At present serving in H.M. Forces.

# Borough of Aylesbury

Public Health Department,  
Town Hall,  
AYLESBURY.

**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Aylesbury.**  
Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to present the annual report on the health of the Borough, together with the vital statistics for the year 1943. Incorporated in the report is that of the Borough Sanitary Inspector, also details of rainfall which have been kindly supplied by the Borough Surveyor.

It will be appreciated that certain restrictions have had to be observed in the compiling of the report, on grounds of national security.

Samples of milk and water supplied to the inhabitants of the Borough have been regularly submitted to the Ministry of Health laboratories throughout the year. A pure, constant and adequate supply of water has been furnished to the Borough direct from the waterworks.

Diphtheria immunisation has been freely and continuously advertised in the local press. General practitioners have been most helpful in utilising the facilities afforded, and the special clinics provided have been regularly held and well attended. I particularly want to thank the school teachers of the Borough for their co-operation in this invaluable preventive measure.

The district continues to be served by two Ministry of Health hostels for the treatment of children suffering from contagious skin diseases when adequate facilities are not available in their own homes.

The incidence of notifiable infectious disease was light, only one child died throughout the year, and this was a baby of a few months old who succumbed to whooping cough. I investigated an outbreak of scarlet fever in a residential institution and advised on treatment and isolation. The Ministry of Health laboratory staff were most helpful in this investigation.

It is my pleasure to thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for your loyal support to myself and the staff throughout the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. T. C. SIMS-ROBERT'S,

M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area .....	3,288 acres
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1943 according to Rate Books) .....	4,835
Rateable Value .....	£142,267
Sum represented by a penny rate .....	£564

### Unemployment.

At December 31st, 1943:—	At December 31st, 1942:—
— women	— women
— men	— men
—	—
— Total	— Total
—	—

### Vital Statistics.

		Total	M.	F.
Live Births	Legitimate .....	276	135	141
	Illegitimate .....	19	13	6
Still Births	Legitimate .....	11	9	2
	Illegitimate .....	1	—	1
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1943.....				15.21
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births .....				15.82
		Total	M.	F.
Deaths .....		194	95	99
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population .....				10.0

### Deaths from Puerperal causes:—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal sepsis .....	0	0
Other puerperal causes .....	0	0

	Total	M.	F.
Deaths of infants under one year of age:—			
Legitimate .....	12	7	5
Illegitimate .....	0	0	0
Totals .....	12	7	5
—	—	—	—

### Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births .....	40.68
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.....	43.48
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births... ..	—

	Total	M.	F.
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .....	25	9	16
Deaths from Measles (all ages) .....	0	0	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) .....	1	1	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) .....	0	0	0
Analysis of Deaths:—			
Tuberculosis Respiratory .....	6		
Non-Respiratory .....	3		
Syphilitic diseases .....		1	
Influenza .....		4	
Whooping Cough .....		1	
Cancer .....	25		
Diabetes .....		2	
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions .....	20		
Heart Disease .....		51	
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System .....	12		
Bronchitis .....		8	
Pneumonia .....	10		
Other Respiratory Diseases .....	3		
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum .....	1		
Appendicitis .....		1	
Other Digestive Diseases .....	7		
Nephritis .....		4	
Premature Birth .....		3	
Congenital Malformation, etc. .....	6		
Road Traffic Accident .....	2		
Other Violent Causes .....	4		
Death from all other Causes .....	20		

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

### Infectious Diseases.

Cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are admitted to the Aylesbury Joint Board Isolation Hospital, Aylesbury (69 beds, including 2 blocks of the cubicle type). The hospital is under the medical superintendence of the Medical Officer of Health of the Borough, and has a consultant surgeon.

### Pathological Specimens.

Pathological Specimens are examined at:—

1. The Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service, South Parks Road, Oxford.
2. The Stoke Mandeville Ministry of Pensions Hospital, Aylesbury.

## **Voluntary Hospital.**

The town is excellently served by the Royal Bucks Hospital (115 beds), which is centrally situated in the County and Borough. There is a commodious out-patients' department fitted with modern equipment attached to the hospital.

## **Ambulance Services of the Borough.**

The St. John Ambulance Brigade maintain three ambulances for dealing with accident and other cases. The ambulance services of the Borough are adequate.

## **Maternity and Child Welfare.**

The Infant Welfare Centre, situated in Church Row, is under the control of the Bucks County Council and is open as an Infant Welfare Clinic every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The premises are also used as a dental clinic for children of school age.

## **Diphtheria Immunisation.**

Diphtheria immunisation has continued to be carried out during the year. Ninety-one school children have been inoculated at the monthly school clinic, Pebble Lane, Aylesbury; two hundred and thirty-seven children under the age of five have been immunised at the Infant Welfare Centre.

## **Government Sick Bays.**

The Sick Bay at No. 9, Bicester Road, admitted sixty patients suffering from minor ailments occurring among evacuees, during the year, and sixty-six were treated as out-patients.

One hundred and twenty-three patients were admitted to the Rural District Sick Bay at Waddesdon Institute.

## **Treatment of Venereal Diseases.**

The County Council are participants in the London and Home Counties Joint Scheme operated by the London County Council, and the appended list gives full details of the hospitals within the scheme, at any one of which patients from this County can obtain treatment free of charge. Days and times for attendance are shown.

In the event of enquiries being received regarding the payment of travelling expenses in necessitous cases, applicants should be advised to apply to the Almoner at the hospital attended in London.

## Local Facilities for Treatment.

**Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury.** The days and times for attendances are as follows:—

Males ..... Monday evenings.

Thursday ,

Females ..... Monday evenings.

Thursday ,

In necessitous cases application for assistance towards payment of travelling expenses should be made to the Medical Officer at the Clinic.

## OTHER FACILITIES—LONDON.

Name and Address.	Dept.	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Albert Dock Hospital Alnwick Road, E.16.	... Male	Mon. to Sat. —	Mon. to Fri. —	Mon., Wed., Fri.
Endell Street (L.C.C.) Clinic 30 & 32, Betterton Street, W.C.2.	... Male	Mon. to Fri. —	Mon. to Sat. —	(Merchant Seamen may attend any time). Except Tues. and Sat.
Guy's Hospital St. Thomas Street, S.E.1.	... Female Male	Tues. & Fri. Mon. to Sat.	Mon. to Sat. —	Tues. & Thurs. Mon. to Sat.
King's College Hospital Denmark Hill, S.E.5	... Female and Children Male	Mon. to Sat. Wed.	Mon. to Sat. Tues., Thurs. & Fri. —	Mon. to Fri. Except Wed. & Sat.
Metropolitan Hospital Kingstand Road, E.8. Miller General Hospital Greenwich S.E.10.	... Male	Wed.	Tues., Thurs. & Fri. —	Except Thurs. Mon. & Fri.
Royal Free Hospital Gray's Inn Road, W.C.1. Royal Northern Hospital Holloway Road, N.7.	... Female Male	Tues.	Mon., Tues. & Fri. Wed. & Thurs.	Mon. & Fri. Wed. & Thurs.
St. George's Hospital, Hyde Park Corner, S.W.1.	... Male, Female and Children	—	Mon. to Sat. —	Mon. to Fri. Mon. to Fri.
				— Tues. to Fri. Mon., Wed. and Fri.

## OTHER FACILITIES—LONDON.

	Name and Address.	Dept.	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
St. John's (Lewisham) Hospital Morden Hill, Lewisham, S.E.13.	... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ...	Male Female and Children Male and Female Male, Female and Children Male	Thurs. — Mon., Wed. & Sat. Mon. to Sat. Sat.	Sessions of Clinics. — Thurs. & Sat. Mon. to Fri. Mon. to Sat. Sat.	Tues. — Thurs. Mon. to Fri. Mon. to Sat. Except Thurs. & Sat.
South London Hospital for Women South Side, Clapham Common, S.W.4.	... ... ... ... ...	Female and Children Male	Wed.	Merchant seamen unable to attend at these times may attend any other time.	Tues. & Fri.
University College Hospital Gower Street, W.C.1.	... ... ...	— — Sat.	— — Sat.	Tues. & Fri.	Mon., Wed., Fri.
West London Hospital Hammersmith Road, W.6	... ... ...	Female Male, Female and Children	— Mon. to Sat.	— Mon. to Sat.	Mon., Thurs., Fri.
Westminster Hospital St. John's Gardens, S.W.1.	... ...	Male	— Mon. Mon.	— Mon.	Mon. to Sat.
Whitechapel (L.C.C.) Clinic Turner Street, Mile End.	... ...	Female and Children	Mon. to Sat.	Mon. & Thurs.	Mon. to Fri. Except Thurs. & Sat.

Urgent cases can be seen and intermediate treatment may be obtained all day on any week-day at most of the above-mentioned clinics.

Note. — Applications for outfits for taking samples of blood, etc., and specimens for examination should be addressed to the Pathologists at the Hospitals.

Applications for approved arsenical drugs should be addressed to the Secretary of the Hospital.

**Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.**—The days and times for attendance are as follows:—

Males .....	Wednesday evenings.
	Saturday afternoons.
Females .....	Monday evenings.
	Wednesday afternoons.

In necessitous cases application for assistance towards payment of travelling expenses should be made to the Almoner at this Hospital.

**Northampton General Hospital.**—The days and times for attendance are as follows:—

Males .....	Wednesday afternoons.
	Friday evenings.
Females .....	Monday evenings.
	Friday noon.

### **Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading.**

Although the County Council have no direct arrangement with this Hospital, treatment can be obtained. Assistance is given towards payment of travelling expenses in necessitous cases, and application should be made to the Almoner at the Hospital.

The days and times for attendance are as follows:—

Males .....	Wednesday afternoons
	Saturday afternoons.
Females .....	Wednesday afternoons.
	Saturday afternoons.

## **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

### **Water Supply.**

The Borough comes wholly within the area served by the Chiltern Hills Spring Water Company.

Samples of water for analysis are taken from different areas in the Borough each month and submitted to the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service, Oxford, for

examination, the result being reported to the Health Committee. All samples were found to be of a high degree of bacterial and organic purity, and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

The gathering ground, well isolated from habitations, and situated on the Chiltern Hills, continues to produce an excellent supply.

### **Closet Accommodation.**

No closets on the conservancy system exist in the town, all existing closets are water flushed.

### **Drainage and Sewerage.**

The drainage and sewerage of the Borough is satisfactory, and is on the partially separate system, surface water from streets and buildings being discharged to water-courses at various points. Owing to the differences in level, four localities are provided with pumping stations to lift the sewage into the main sewers. These are situated at Mandeville Road, Buckingham Road, California and Tring Road.

### **Sewage Disposal.**

The Sewage Disposal Works, situated near the boundary of the town, continues to function satisfactorily.

### **Public Conveniences.**

The supervision of these conveniences is under the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

The town is well served by the conveniences for both sexes under the island in Kingsbury Square, used as a centre for omnibus services, and also at the Vale Ground, High Street; there is a Gentlemen's Convenience adjoining the Cattle Market and temporary urinals in Upper Hundreds and Walton Road.

### **Public Cleansing.**

This has proceeded in a satisfactory manner.

### **Sanitary Inspection of the Area.**

Inspections made under the Public Health Acts were as follows:—

Slaughterhouses .....	924
Butcher's Shops .....	163
Food Shops .....	1,042
Dairies and Cowsheds .....	124
Bakehouses .....	65
Infected House Visits .....	57

### **Open Air Swimming Pool, Park Street.**

The purification of the water in the open air swimming Pool continues to be satisfactory.

## Indoor Swimming Bath, Bourbon Street.

These premises have only been used for slipper baths during the year.

## Eradication of Bed Bugs.

One hundred and eleven rooms have been disinfested against bed bugs; "Thermatox" gas blocks and "Zaldecide" insecticide being used successfully; and five houses were treated by a specialist firm with Hydrogen Cyanide.

## Schools.

The general sanitary condition of the Elementary Schools in the Borough is good, and the water supply is sufficient.

## Local Rainfall.

JANUARY .....	3.65 inches	JULY .....	1.33 inches
FEBRUARY .....	1.01 "	AUGUST .....	2.17 "
MARCH .....	0.47 "	SEPTEMBER .....	2.35 "
APRIL .....	1.02 "	OCTOBER .....	2.67 "
MAY .....	2.07 "	NOVEMBER .....	1.09 "
JUNE .....	2.24 "	DECEMBER .....	1.03 "

Total rainfall for the year 21.10 inches.

The average rainfall for the last 38 years is 25.06 inches. (Figures supplied by Mr. J. D. Dugdale, Borough Surveyor).

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### (a) Milk Supply.

Pasteurisation is carried out on a large scale at Messrs. Nestle's and the Aylesbury Co-operative Society's premises. Numerous samples were taken during the year to ensure that the plants were working satisfactorily.

The following milk retailers are licensed to sell "Tuberculin Tested" and "Pasteurised" milk in the Borough:—

### "Tuberculin Tested."

1. Mr. R. Lanchbury, Hadley Herd Dairies, Hartwell.
2. Messrs. J. Lisley & Son, Tring Road, Aylesbury.
3. Mr. F. J. Davis (Junior), "Homefield," Bierton.
4. Mr. R. S. Pearce, Marsh Road, Stoke Mandeville.
5. Mr. A. Warren, St. John's Street, Aylesbury.

### "Pasteurised."

1. Aylesbury Co-operative Society.

## (b) Meat and Other Foods.

## Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed .....	1,405	513	2,390	7,721	151
Number inspected .....	1,405	513	2,390	7,721	151
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</b>					
Whole carcases condemned	6	13	5	25	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	237	125	26	491	15
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis .....	17.3%	26.9%	1.3%	6.68%	9.93%
<b>Tuberculosis only.</b>					
Whole carcases condemned	11	44	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	148	131	2	0	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis .....	11.32%	34.11%	0.084%	—	4.64%

The total weight of meat and other foods condemned during the year was 148 tons, 14 cwt., 1 qr., 1½ lbs.

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Details are given below of the infectious disease notified during the year.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Measles .....	129	24	—
Whooping Cough .....	94	3	1
Scarlet Fever .....	109	67	—
Pneumonia .....	27	20	10
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	11	11	—
Erysipelas .....	6	5	—
Diphtheria .....	9*	8	—
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	2	2	—
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Dysentery .....	7	3	—
Para-typhoid .....	—	—	—
Typhoid .....	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	2	—

\*Includes a Service case.

**Incidence of Notifiable Diseases during the year, with  
Analysis under Age Groups.**

	0—1 yr.		1—2 yrs.		2—3 yrs.		3—4 yrs.		4—5 yrs.		5—10 yrs.		10—15 yrs.		15—20 yrs.		20—35 yrs.		35—45—yrs.		45—65 yrs.		Over 65 yrs.		TOTALS.
Measles .....	2	6	13	12	12	73	2	3	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	129		
Whooping Cough ...	7	2	7	16	15	42	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	94		
Scarlet Fever .....	0	3	3	4	10	53	19	8	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	109		
Pneumonia .....	0	2	0	0	1	3	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27		
Puerperal Pyrexia...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11		
Erysipelas .....	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6		
Diphtheria .....	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9		
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis .....	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2		
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Dysentery .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7		
Typhoid .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Para-typhoid .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3		
Encephalitis .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Lethargica .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		

Fifty-seven visits were made to infected premises.

**TUBERCULOSIS.**

Age Periods.	New Cases.						Deaths.					
	Respiratory.		Non- respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non- respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non- respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 .....	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 .....	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
25 .....	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
35 .....	3	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
45 .....	2	2	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0
55 .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS .....	7	7	1	2	4	2	2	1				

**FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES.**

Under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, and the Public Health Act, 1936, visits have been made to mechanical and non-mechanical factories and workplaces, and informal action taken where necessary to remedy contraventions of the requirements of these Acts.

## ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

### 1. Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to health.

PREMISES.	Number of Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories with mechanical power...}			112
Factories without mechanical power}			1
			Nil.

### 2. Defects found.

PARTICULARS.	Number of Defects.			
	Found.	Remedied.	In respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.	Inspector.
Want of Cleanliness (Sec. 1)	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding (Sec. 2) .....	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable temperature (Sec. 3) .....	0	0	0	0
Inadequate ventilation (Sec. 4) .....	0	0	0	0
Ineffective drainage of floors (Sec. 6) .....	0	0	0	0
<b>Sanitary Conveniences:—</b>				
(Sec. 7).				
Insufficient .....	1	1	0	0
Unsuitable or defective .....	0	0	0	0
Not separate for sexes .....	0	0	0	0
Other offences .....	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### Outwork in Unwholesome Premises.

It was not found necessary to take any action in respect of outworkers' premises.





## Borough of Aylesbury

---

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Borough Sanitary Inspector

1943.

# Borough of Aylesbury

Public Health Department,  
Town Hall,

AYLESBURY.

January, 1944.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the principal activities of the Public Health Department during the year 1943.

NUISANCES, CONTRAVENTIONS OF BYELAWS, ETC.	
Complaints received and investigated .....	17
Nuisances, etc., found without complaint .....	83
Nuisances, etc., abated .....	84
Statutory Notices served under the Public Health Acts	Nil.
Informal Notices served under the Public Health Acts	97
Prosecutions .....	Nil.

## HOUSES AND PREMISES INSPECTED.

The total number of inspections under the Public Health Acts was as follows:—

Dairies and Cowsheds .....	124
Bakehouses .....	65
Butchers' Shops .....	163
Slaughterhouses .....	924
Food Shops .....	1,042
Visits under the Tuberculosis Order .....	4
Infected House Visits (Excluding Tuberculosis cases)	57
Marine Stores .....	17
Miscellaneous Visits .....	525
<hr/>	
	2,921
<hr/>	

In addition to the above, other visits include those under the Housing Act, Factories Act, Canal Boats Act, Shops Act, Public Conveniences, Rats and Mice Destruction Act, Petroleum Act, Disinfestation of Vermin Infested Properties, and Inspection of Billets. These are all shown under their respective headings in this Report.

## HOUSING ACT, 1936.

Active work under the above-mentioned Act is still in abeyance, but 89 inspections and 83 re-inspections have been carried out. In only one case was it necessary to take statutory action to enforce the execution of repairs.

The Government's scheme of priority for works of an urgent and essential character has resulted in a slight increase

of such work, and it is anticipated that as the scheme becomes more widely known many more applications for permission to carry out such works will be received.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Four hundred and eleven notifications of infectious disease were received during the year, as follows:—

Measles .....	129
Whooping Cough .....	94
Scarlet Fever .....	109
Pneumonia .....	27
Tuberculosis .....	17
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	11
Erysipelas .....	6
Diphtheria .....	9
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis .....	2
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis .....	Nil.
Typhoid .....	Nil.
Dysentery .....	7
Para-typhoid .....	Nil.
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	3
Encephalitis Lethargica .....	Nil.
	—
	414
	—

Rooms disinfected .....	6
Visits to infected premises .....	57

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Mechanical Factories on the register requiring visiting...	51
Non-Mechanical Factories on the register requiring visiting .....	63
Visits paid to factories .....	112

### PREMISES ON THE REGISTER REQUIRING VISITING.

Bakehouses .....	13
Dairies .....	13
Cowsheds .....	8
	—
	34
	—

Visits paid to Bakehouses .....	65
Visits paid to Cowsheds and Dairies .....	124
	—
	189
	—

NOTICES SERVED re CLEANSING, WATER SUPPLY,  
Etc.

Cowsheds and Dairies .....	24
Bakehouses .....	26
Factories and Workplaces .....	3
	—
	53
	—

## MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

Three Cowkeepers within the Borough are licensed by the County Council as producers of "Accredited" milk. Another Cowkeeper is licensed by the County Council to produce "Tuberculin-Tested" milk.

Two dairies hold "Pasteuriser's" licences, four milk purveyors are licensed to retail "Tuberculin-Tested" milk, and another purveyor is licensed to bottle and retail "Tuberculin-Tested" milk. These licences are issued by the Borough Council.

Thirty-four samples of milk were taken during the year, all of which were proved good, except three. Investigations were made in each of these cases and the source of failure eliminated, further samples proving satisfactory.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND FOOD SUPPLY.

Slaughterhouse Inspections .....	924
Butchers' Shops Inspections .....	163
Food Shops Inspections .....	1,042

The number of animals slaughtered during the year was as follows:—

	Bulls	Steers	Heifs.	Cows.	Calvs.	Sheep	Pigs	Total
1st Qt. .....	22	108	71	177	566	1,201	83	2,228
2nd Qt. .....	43	322	128	121	662	1,622	25	2,923
3rd Qt. .....	15	265	123	94	495	2,157	19	3,168
4th Qt. .....	6	186	116	121	667	2,741	24	3,861
Total .....	86	881	438	513	2,390	7,721	151	12,180

The number of carcases examined was as follows:—

	Killed.	Examined.	Percentage
Bulls .....	86	86	100%
Steers .....	881	881	100%
Heifers .....	438	438	100%
Cows .....	513	513	100%
Calves .....	2,390	2,390	100%
Sheep .....	7,721	7,721	100%
Pigs .....	151	151	100%
Total .....	12,180	12,180	100%

The following unsound food was surrendered during 1943:—

Cow Beef .....	24,440	lbs.
Cow Offals .....	12,978 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Other Beef .....	6,403	"
Other Bovine Offals .....	9,980	"
Pork .....	679	"
Pork Offals .....	308 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Mutton .....	1,490 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Mutton Offals .....	1,752 $\frac{1}{4}$	"
Veal .....	1,039 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Miscellaneous .....	274,046 $\frac{1}{4}$	"
	<hr/>	
	333,117 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
	<hr/>	

Total:—148 tons, 14 cwt., 1 quarter, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs.

The increase in unsound food surrendered during the year is almost wholly accounted for by the large amount of Lease-Lend milk dealt with.

#### CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

Number killed .....	Cattle		Sheep & Lambs.		Pigs.
	excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Lambs.	
Number killed .....	1,405	513	2,390	7,721	151
Number inspected .....	1,405	513	2,390	7,721	151
<b>All diseases except</b>					
<b>Tuberculosis.</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned	6	13	5	25	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	237	125	26	491	15
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis .....	17.3%	26.9%	1.3%	6.68%	9.93%
<b>Tuberculosis only.</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned	11	44	0	0	1
Carcasses of which some part or organs was condemned	148	131	2	0	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis .....	11.32%	34.11%	0.084%	—	4.64%

Centralised slaughter of animals is carried out under Government control.

For the time being all slaughterhouse licences except those premises under Government control have been suspended. The annual licences for slaughtermen, of course, continue.

## PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928.

Licences issued for the storage of petroleum spirit.....	59
Licences issued for the storage of Carbide of Calcium .....	6
Total fees received for the above licences .....	£46 15s. 0d.

Quantity licensed to be kept:—

Petroleum spirit .....	125,804 gallons.
Carbide of Calcium.....	1,784 lbs.

Inspections of Petrol and Carbide Stores .....	11
--	----

The reason for the reduction in the number of licences is due to War conditions, consequently the storage quantity and fees are less in proportion.

## CANAL BOATS ACTS AND REGULATIONS.

Boats Inspected .....	40
Notices served .....	6

## SHOPS ACTS.

Strict supervision under the above-mentioned Acts is not so necessary as in times of peace, closing hours being now far below those allowed by the Acts.

Twenty-nine visits were made during the year.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

All Public Conveniences are now under the control of the Health Department. On account of the continuous wilful damage at all the premises, committed by persons whose mentality must be of a very low order, much time and expense has been incurred to keep them in a clean and efficient condition. Efforts to bring the culprits to book have not been successful.

331 visits were made during the year.

## RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

Continued use has been made of the services of Mr. Skyles in the work of rats and mice destruction, the estimated number of rats destroyed being three hundred and sixty-seven.

During the year the control of Rodent Infestation was assumed by the Ministry of Food, who have issued certain directions to all Local Authorities. Owing to shortage of staff it has been found impossible to carry out these directions, but with the advent of my new assistant I hope to give this matter the attention it calls for.

Twenty-nine visits were made during the year.

## WATER SUPPLY.

Eleven samples have been submitted to the Analyst during the year and all were found to be fit for drinking and domestic purposes except one, which was taken from a spring well.

### .BILLETS.

All possible assistance has been given to the Billeting Officer and the W.V.S. to ensure that proposed billets are clean and suitable for the purpose. This procedure also provides the opportunity when claims for damage to billets occur, to form a clear judgment upon the responsibility for such. The number of billets inspected was 596 and this necessitated 734 visits.

### DISINFESTATION.

Disinfestation of premises against vermin has been carried out by gassing and spraying, whilst the gassing chamber at the rear of Church House has been used for the treatment of bedding and clothing, and in all cases where bedding has been used in billets this has been done before sending same to the laundry.

The gassing chamber mentioned above was in use on thirteen occasions.

111 rooms were treated against vermin, and 5 houses were treated by a specialist firm with Hydrogen Cyanide.

### FOOD DECONTAMINATION

Lectures and demonstrations in food decontamination have been continued during the year, and I am pleased to report the continued interest and enthusiasm of all the members.

### GENERAL.

The foregoing sets out briefly the main work of the Department during the year.

Mr. Alfred Lee, Borough Sanitary Inspector since 1909, resigned on May 31st, and I should like to take this opportunity of paying my tribute to the work he has done in the Borough throughout that service, and to express my thanks and appreciation for his help and guidance in the time I have served with him.

I am pleased to be able to report that Douglas Andrew, who was reported missing at the fall of Singapore, is now known to be a prisoner of war in Japanese hands. Denis Rixon is now a staff sergeant in the R.A.M.C., and Douglas Keen is serving with the R.A.F. in India.

Mrs. Burge relinquished her position as shorthand typist for health reasons on July 2nd, being succeeded by Miss P. Turing, who commenced duty on August 24th and has given satisfactory service. Mr. A. T. Braley was appointed Temporary Additional Sanitary Inspector in March, and concluded his service with the Department on October 13th, when he was appointed to a similar position with the Watchet Urban District Council.

Finally, I wish to express my thanks to the members of the Council for the confidence placed in me, and the help and encouragement given, to the members of my staff for their loyal and wholehearted co-operation, and to my fellow officers for advice and assistance readily and willingly rendered.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

Your obedient Servant,

W. EWART RUSE, M.S.L.A., A.R.San.I.

Borough Sanitary Inspector.